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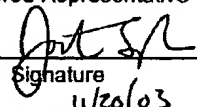
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Our Case No. 659/766

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gary L. Shanklin)
Serial No. 09/753,134)
Filing Date: December 29, 2000)
For ANTIMICROBIAL ABSORBENT)
ARTICLE, AND METHODS OF)
MAKING AND USING THE SAME)

Examiner Lynda Salvatore
Group Art Unit No. 1771

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

10/26/2004 TROSS1 00000002 231955 09753134
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE 00 DA
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Office Action mailed on May 20, 2003. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections in view of the following remarks, as set forth below. Submitted herewith is a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.114.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.